



Methodological Development for Normative Standards and Other Research

Area B1 - SEEA Central Framework

- 1. Opening remarks and potential for revision of SEEA CF:** Sjoerd Schenau, Statistics Netherlands
- 2. Progress on the development of the Statistical Framework for Measuring the Sustainability of Tourism:** Vivian Ilarina, Philippines Statistical Authority
- 3. Update from the London Group:** Nancy Steinbach, Statistics Sweden



Potential for a revision of the SEEA CF

Sjoerd Schenau (Statistics Netherlands)

Gerard Eding (Statistics Netherlands)

Alessandra Alfieri (UNSD)

Jessica Ying Chan (UNSD)

Questions to the UNCEEA

1. Does the UNCEEA agree that a revision of the SEEA CF is useful and necessary in the coming 5-6 years?
2. Which option for a revision of the SEEA CF would the UNCEEA prefer?
3. If the UNCEEA agrees to start the process of a next SEEA CF revision from 2021 onwards, what would be the next steps?

Content

- Why revise SEEA CF ?
- How would such a revision look like ?
- What would be the timing ?
- What could be next steps ?

Background

SNA

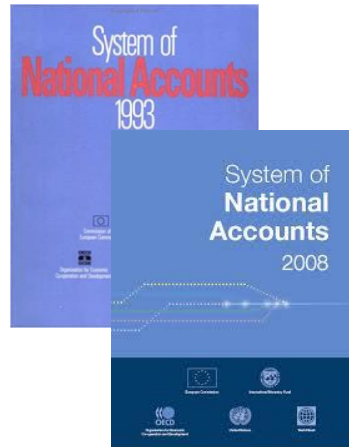
1947: first report on SNA

1953: publication first SNA

1960, 1964, 1968, 1993:
revisions SNA

2008: last revision

SNA



SEEA

1993: first manual

2003: Update

2012: SEEA CF international
standard

2012, 2021: SEEA

Ecosystem accounting



1. General user needs

- The statistical community needs **up-to-date statistical standards** and guidelines
- A revision of the SEEA CF would provide the opportunity **to bring on board the various communities** that have been working on developing methodologies independently
- From the user perspective, there is also the need to see how the SEEA CF and SEEA EEA can be integrated in order **to harness synergies in the production and use of the accounts.**
- SEEA CF needs also to address the **needs of the stakeholders/ users.**



2. Responding to new policy demands

- Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Beyond GDP movement
- Natural capital and biodiversity
- Circular economy (CE)
- Climate and energy policies
- Environment related expenditures
- Oceans
- Etc.



3. Integration of the work on the SEEA CF research agenda

A: Conceptual issues	Chapter in SEEA CF	Status (2019)
1. Development of classifications		
1a Residuals	3	not started
1b Land use	5	not started
1c Land cover	5	not started
1d CEA classification	4	ongoing
2. Definition of resource management	4	ongoing
3. Integrated framework for environmental activity accounts	4	adopted
4. Losses	3	not started
5. Linkages and overlaps between SEEA CF and SEEA EEA	2,3,4,5	starts in 2019
6. Fossil fuel subsidies by industry	4	ongoing
7. LULUCF and SEEA	3	not started
8. Valuation of renewable resources	5	not started
B: Implementation issues		
1. Implementation issues related to classifications	3,4,5	ongoing / not started
2. Approaches to the measurement of adapted goods	4	ongoing
3. Economy wide material flow accounts	3	adopted
4. Input output techniques	(x)	not started
5. Global DSDs for data exchange for SDMX	(x)	adopted
C: Issues for long term development		
1 Other classifications	3,4,5	not started
2 minimization of natural hazards and the effects of climate change	3,4,5	not started
3 Link with Tourism satellite accounts	3,4,5	ongoing
4 Link with social domain	3,4,5	not started

4. Work on the SNA research agenda

- The **Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts** (ISWGNA) started technical research in prioritized and current national accounts issues.
- A revision of SEEA CF would contribute to addressing the **issue of well-being and sustainability** in the SNA research agenda.
- The work on the research agendas should be further aligned.

5. Alignment with SEEA EEA

- The **relation between SEEA CF and SEEA EEA** needs to be made clear upfront in the text
- There are several areas and topics where the SEEA CF and SEEA EEA **overlap or are closely related**. All these topics should be well described and explained in relation to the two frameworks.
- The SEEA CF and SEEA EEA should describe how they link or could be integrated into the accounts of the SNA.

Option 1: No revision

The first option is to decide **not** to start a revision of the SEEA CF in the coming 5-6 years.

Pros

- Less effort is needed from the statistical community in the coming years.

Cons

- The current SEEA CF manual will not be up to date and aligned with other manuals / standards
- Less progress will be made on key research issues
- There is no/unclear alignment between SEEA CF and SEEA EEA
- The SEEA CF will become less suitable for many policy needs/ applications

Option 2: A limited revision of SEEA CF

- a) Incorporation of the **current and new work on SEEA CF** research agenda,
- b) Incorporation of the **work on SNA research agenda**,
- c) An **up-to-date description** of relationship with SEEA EEA,
- d) Making SEEA CF more up to date to meet some **important policy needs**.

Pros

- The SEEA CF will be up to date with other manuals / standards
- The SEEA CF will become more suitable for many policy needs/ applications
- Alignment with the new work on the SNA research agenda

Cons

- Requires significant investments by the statistical community
- No full consistency and integration between SEEA CF and SEEA EEA
- Funds need to be raised



Option 3: Revision of SEEA CF and integration with SEEA EEA

Including the revision activities described under option 2 plus the following

- a) **Full integration of the two manuals,**
- b) **Establishing closer links** between the accounts of SEEA CF and SEEA EEA.

Pros

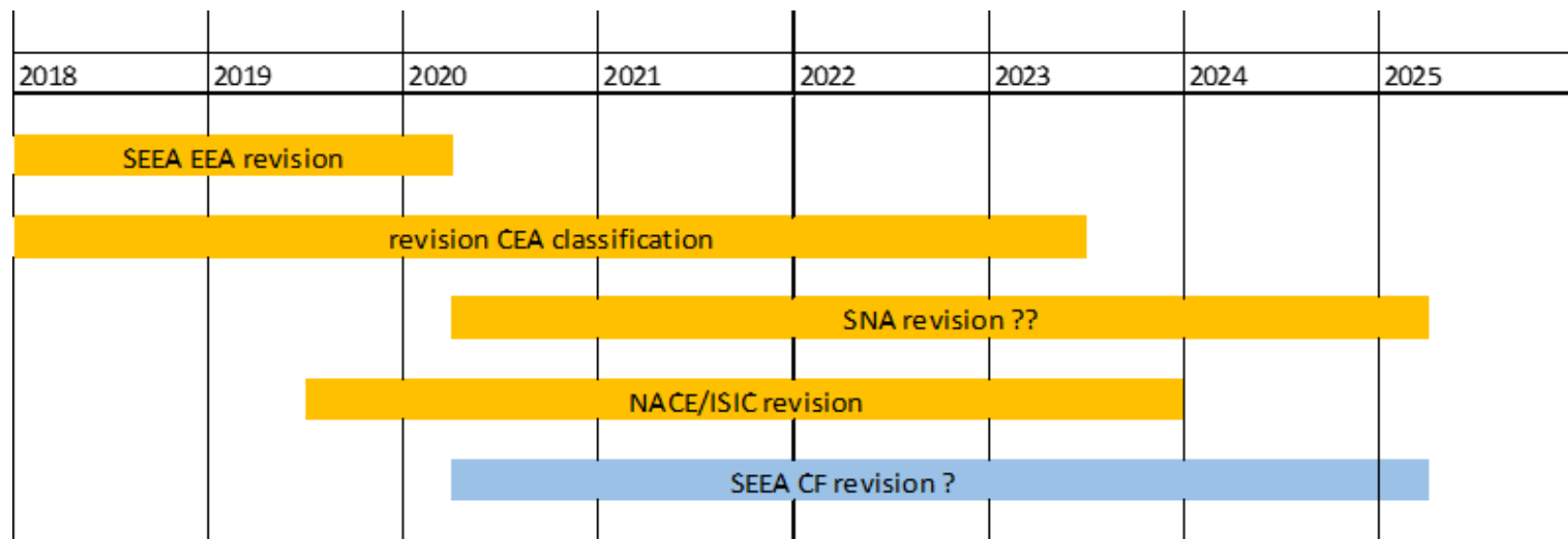
- One SEEA manual as the basis for all environmental economic accounting
- Full integration of all relevant topics / accounts
- Allows incorporation of new insights from testing / implementation of SEEA EEA

Cons

- This option will require a significant investments by the statistical community
- The revised integrated SEEA would follow relatively soon after SEEA EEA
- Funds need to be raised



Timing



Possible next steps

- Update and prioritise the SEEA CF research agenda.
- Provide a broad overview of key policy areas and their needs in order to identify where SEEA CF may need additional clarification, elaboration of adjustment.
- Describe in more detail where the overlaps and issues are with regard to SEEA EEA and how this would impact SEEA CF.
- Develop ideas on how the revision could to be organized.
- Develop a work plan, timeline, find funding etc.

Questions to the UNCEEA

1. Does the UNCEEA agree that a revision of the SEEA CF is useful and necessary in the coming 5-6 years, based on the arguments put forward in this document?
2. Which option for a revision of the SEEA CF would the UNCEEA prefer? (option 1 is no revision, option 2 is a limited revision of SEEA CF, option 3 is a revision including an integration with SEEA EEA)
3. If the UNCEEA agrees to start the process of a next SEEA CF revision from 2021 onwards, what would be the next steps?